

State of California HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

S. KIMBERLY BELSHÉ Secretary

S. Kimberly Belshé was appointed secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in November 2003. Ms. Belshé is a member of the governor's Cabinet and serves as his chief advisor on health, social services and rehabilitative policies.

Ms. Belshé manages an agency that has more than 34,000 employees, with a total combined state and federal budget of \$69 billion. The agency oversees 12 state departments and one board that are responsible for providing Californians with health, developmental, mental, rehabilitative, social and other critical services. As secretary, Ms. Belshé is responsible for providing leadership and oversight of the agency's departments in their individual and collective efforts to promote the health and well-being of the people of California, particularly those most in need and at risk.

Ms. Belshé served in a number of leadership positions in state government under the administration of Governor Pete Wilson, including deputy secretary of the then-Health and Welfare Agency and director of the Department of Health Services. As State Health Director, Ms. Belshé provided leadership in the state's efforts to expand health insurance coverage for low-income children and pregnant women, reverse teenage and unintended pregnancies, combat tobacco use and advance a broad prevention agenda.

After a decade of public service in federal and state government, Ms. Belshé served as the program director for The James Irvine Foundation, a multipurpose foundation dedicated to expanding opportunities for the people of California. Throughout her career, Ms. Belshé has also served in a number of civic and public capacities. She is a board member of the Great Valley Center, which is dedicated to promoting the economic, social and environmental sustainability of California's Central Valley region. In addition, she serves as an executive committee member of the National Academy for State Health Policy, an organization dedicated to assisting states in finding solutions to complex health policy issues.

As one of the founding commissioners of the California Children and Families Commission, Ms. Belshé served as vice chairperson and contributed to efforts to improve the oral health of young children. In addition to her civic activities, Ms. Belshé sits on numerous boards and committees, including the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board, as spokesperson and representative for the governor.

Ms. Belshé received her MA degree in public and international affairs from Princeton University and her BA degree in government from Harvard. She is a resident of Sacramento.

